

The Great Parents, Great Start Program

**Moving Into
Year Four**



A Parent Education Program

for
parents with children birth
to 5 years of age (prior to
kindergarten eligibility).

**Great Parents, Great
Start's focus is on parents
and changing parenting
behavior.**

Change often requires more
than providing information and
written educational materials.

Great Parents, Great Start Values Parents As..

- Individuals who nurture, model, teach and guide the child.
- Individuals who, over time, lay the foundation for children's success.
- The most important people in their children's lives.



Respecting Parents and Their Role as Their Children's First Teachers



2006-2007 State School Aid Act Changes to Section 32j

Allocates \$5 million for Great Parents, Great Start grants—districts can request 150.33% of their 2005-2006 GP,GS payment.
Adds the acquisition of mathematics, early reading and age appropriate language skills.
Adds the promotion of social and emotional development for infants and toddlers.

Year 2006-2007 Brings New State Board of Education Grant Criteria

Great Parents, Great Start is designed to:

improve school readiness,
foster the maintenance of stable
families, encourage language, early
mathematics and reading literacy,
and
reduce the need for special
education services by encouraging
positive parenting skills.

Great Parents, Great Start Is to Be Part of the Broader Community

- Grantees must demonstrate adequate collaboration with local entities involved in providing services to young children and their parents. Collaboration involves shared leadership, joint decision making, etc.



- Grantees must align services with and as part of the broader community early childhood collaborative plan.

Services must be provided to all
parents with children age five and
younger residing in the district
who choose to participate.

**Majority of these services must be
to be directed to families with
children younger than four years of
age.**

Programs must continue to offer parents at least the following services.

1. Child development information-birth to 5.
2. Methods to enhance parent-child interaction, to promote social/emotional development, language, mathematics and early reading skills.
3. Examples of learning opportunities - promoting social, physical, and intellectual growth.
4. Access to needed community services.
5. Promotion of marriage.

Methods to Enhance Parent/Child Interaction

- Promoting social/emotional development of infants and toddlers.
Attachment and Trust
Self Regulation
Empathy
Sense of Belonging
- Age appropriate language.
- Age appropriate mathematics and early reading skills.



So What Might Be Considered..

- Age Appropriate Language opportunities for
 - an infant and toddler?
 - a four year old?
- Age Appropriate Mathematics opportunities for
 - an infant?
 - a three year old?

Consider..

- Age Appropriate Language for
 - an infant and toddler--cuddle, hold, play and talk so the infant hears the sounds of language with repetition.
 - a four year old--expanded vocabulary using rare words(big, enormous, huge, gigantic, etc) and extended discourse.
- Age Appropriate Mathematics for
 - an infant--hearing words like "big" and "more" during daily interactions.
 - a three year old--sequencing and talking about the environment (what comes next, finding patterns, etc.).

Programs must provide connections to quality preschool programs for families with children who are three and four years of age.

- Accredited Early Childhood Programs (NAEYC or NAFCC)
- Head Start
- Michigan School Readiness Preschool Classrooms
- Programs that meet the State Board's Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten (March 2005)



Promotion of Marriage



- Importance of healthy relationships in building a strong marriage.
- Referrals to community agencies and faith-based organizations for counseling and guidance.

Services to Families Must Reflect the Level of Family Risk

Universal Services

low intensity services available to any interested family, such as...

community playgroups
newsletters
book distributions
web based resources

Targeted Services

higher more frequent intensive face-to-face services using validated research based curriculum that matches the target population, such as...

home visiting programs and focused parent/child groups designed for higher risk families.

**At your tables,
identify general populations of
families who might benefit
from targeted parenting
services.**

**Remember your focus is on
parents and
parenting behaviors.**

Additional Expectations for Services Related to Scale of Risk

- Balanced funding directed at both universal and targeted services so universal services do not deplete the majority of grant dollars.
- Provision of referrals to community agencies to meet the other needs of higher risk families.



Goals and Outcomes

- Universal Services—Establish measurable *program* goals and outcomes.
- Targeted Services—Establish measurable child and family outcomes related to school readiness and family stability.

Starting in 2006-2007

- MDE will move towards assessing the effectiveness of Great Parents, Great Start services.
- All grantees will be expected to participate in a MDE-approved data collection and evaluation system, including use of selected data collection instruments.

The Staff Delivering Your Services

Must possess proper early childhood training, including, but not limited to...

- Academic credit in child development, early childhood education or equivalent.
- or-
- Certification as a parent educator/home visitor focusing on parents of children, birth to five years of age.

Budgets and Reporting...

Great Parents, Great Start Budgets

- 20% local or private match with at least half of that match in cash.
 - ISD general fund sources can be used.
 - state aid designated funds can not be used, i.e. MSRP funds.
- No more than 10% of MDE grant funds in administrative costs
 - Break out internal operation costs, i.e. payroll, administrative oversight, from costs of direct services to families.



Previously Existing Great Parents, Great Start Carry Over



- Grant narratives and budgets must address how any and all remaining carryover from previous years will be spent prior to accessing the 2006-2007 funds for program service delivery.

Great Parents, Great Start Budgets



- One-half of 1 percent of MDE funds is to go towards a state evaluation of GP,GS services.
- Include staff time for data training, collection and reporting.

Before Submitting Your Application, Make Sure Your Budget Has:

- All totals added correctly.
- Both a budget summary page and the required detail pages.
- A budget detail that explains in greater detail the amounts shown on the budget summary. Amounts should be laid out similarly between the two documents so totals and subtotals match and can be easily reviewed.

Before Submitting Your Application, Make Sure Your Budget Has:

- An explanation of what funds are being directed at targeted services and what are being directed towards universal services.
- Clear explanations of cash and in-kind match (amounts and sources) and administrative costs, etc. No indirect costs are allowed.
- Adequate detail related to outgoing transfers that clearly shows how these funds will be spent and by whom.

SRSD Reporting

- SRSD data on all targeted children.
- Include in the ISD's June 2007 SRSD End of the Year Report.

TANF Maintenance of Effort Report

- Report to MDE by October 15, 2007.
- Give information on target children and their families:
 - family ID,
 - number of children and families,
 - family and child TANF eligibility,
 - child birth date,
 - types of parenting services received, and
 - the amount GP,GS funding expended.



Closing reminders as you develop your plan...

Universal and Targeted

In your 2006-2007 program plan:

- Clearly identify your universal services, what they are, how people will be reached, etc.
- Identify who will be your target and what will be delivered as more intensive services.
- Clarify how your target services are different from your universal services.



Great Parents, Great Start is not:

- A special education or Early On® program.
- An ISD stand alone program.
- A children's early childhood program.
- Transition to kindergarten activities.
- Teaching parents kindergarten routines and skills.



Great Parents, Great Start is not:

- A one or two-day conference/fair exhibit.
- Primarily a literacy program.
- Training child care providers on literacy.
- All that is necessary for MSRP-PIE like activities.



Timeline for Continuation Applications

Due to MDE by
September 29, 2006

MDE notifies ISDs by
November 15, 2006

Questions?

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